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INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS 13
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4. FOLLOWING IS TEXT LETTER, UNNECESSARY WORDS OMITTED: BEGIN QUOTE GOVERNMENTS SWEDEN, DENMARK, NORWAY EXPRESSED MAY 24, 1967, DURING 161ST MEETING OF MINISTERS' DEPUTIES THEIR FULL AGREEMENT WITH ORDER 256 OF CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF COUNCIL ABOUT SITUATION IN GREECE. IN THIS ORDER SUSPENSION CONSTITUTIONAL LAW IN GREECE DEPLORED. IT FURTHERMORE STATED THAT AS MEMBER COUNCIL EUROPE GREECE MUST REMAIN LOYAL TO STATUTE OF COUNCIL. CONSEQUENTLY ASSEMBLY CALLED UPON GREEK AUTHORITIES TO RESTORE CONSTITUTIONAL REGIME AND SYSTEM PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY AND PROTESTED AGAINST ALL MEASURES CONTRARY EUROPEAN CONVENTION HUMAN RIGHTS.

IN ITS RESOLUTION 346 (1967) ON SITUATION IN GREECE, CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY STATED WISH THAT GOVERNMENTS OF CONTRACTING PARTIES TO EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD REFER GREEK CASE TO EUROPEAN COMMISSION HUMAN RIGHTS IN ACCORDANCE ARTICLE 24 OF CONVENTION.

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OF EIGHTEEN MEMBERS COUNCIL EUROPE SIXTEEN MEMBERS HAVE RATIFIED EURPEAN CONVENTION FOR PROTECTION HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, SIGNED ROME NOVEMBER 4, 1950. IN SO DOING THEY HAVE REAFFIRMED THEIR PROFOUND BELIEF IN THOSE FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS WHICH ARE FOUNDATION JUSTICE AND PEACE IN WORLD AND ARE BEST MAINTAINED ON ONE HAND BY EFFECTIVE POLITICAL DEMOCRACY AND ON OTHER BY COMMON UNDERSTANDING AND OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS UPON WHICH THEY DEPEND. ANY DEROGATION BY A HIGH CONTRACTING PARTY FROM ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER CONVENTION MUST, THEREFORE, BE DEPLORED AND NECESSARILY WARRANT CLOSE EXAMINATION BY OTHER HIGH CONTRACTING PARTIES.

BY LETTER MAY 3, 1967, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE GREECE INFORMED

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YOU THAT BY ROYAL DECREE NO. 280 APRIL 21, 1967, APPLICATION CERTAIN ARTICLES OF GREEK CONSTITUTION HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED IN VIEW INTERNAL DANGERS WHICH THREATEN PUBLIC ORDER AND SECURITY OF STATE. REPORTS FROM GREECE CONFIRM THAT RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS SET FORTH IN THE CONVENTION HAVE LATELY BEEN VIOLATED AND BASIC PRINCIPLES ON WHICH DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY IF FOUNDED SET ASIDE.

PRESENT SITUATION IN GREECE CANNOT FAIL TO STRIKE MY GOVERNMENT AS DEEPLY TRAGIC AND INDEED GIVES RISE TO SERIOUS CONCERN. IN VIEW SITUATION AND IN PURSUANCE OF AIMS COUNCIL EUROPE AS LAID DOWN IN ITS STATUTE THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS - AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION AND RECALLING RESOLUTION 346

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OF THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY ON THE SITUATION IN GREECE - DECIDED TO SUBMIT APPLICATION UNDER ART. 24 OF CONVENTION TO COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS OF COUNCIL EUROPE AGAINST PRESENT GOVERNMENT OF GREECE. IN DOING SO THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT DOES NOTHING BUT APPLY THE MACHINERY WHICH COUNCIL EUROPE - UNIQUE IN THIS FIELD AMONG INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - HAS SET UP FOR SAFE-GUARDING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL REEDOMS AND WHICH GREECE HAS HERSELF SUBSCRIBED TO AND ON FORMER OCCASIONS MADE USE OF.

THE APPLICATION OF SWEDISH GOVERNMENT IS HEREBY HANDED OVER TO YOU, MR. SECRETARY GENERAL, FOR FURTHER TRANSMISSION IN ACCORDANCE ARTICLE 24 OF CONVENTION.

THIS STEP IS TAKEN IN CONSULTATION WITH GOVERNMENTS OF DENMARK AND NORWAY, WHICH ARE SUBMITTING SIMILAR APPLICATIONS.

I HAVE FINALLY TO INFORM YOU THAT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 36(1) OF RULES OF PROCEDURE EUROPEAN COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS SWEDISH GOVERNMENT HAS APPOINTED AS ITS AGENT MR. L. KELLBERG, HEAD OF LEGAL DEPARTMENT MINISTRY FOREIGN AFFAIRS. END QUOTE

[redacted]

DC9/18/68
HEATH

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